(b) Other State Governments have also requested to increase royalty on coal.

(c) A Committee has been constituted on 02.06.2005 under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Coal) to consider revision of rates of royalty on coal and lignite. The Committee would submit its report after taking into consideration the views of all stakeholder viz., the coal producing States, major coal consumers and others.

Right of coal mining

†1024. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating on extending the right of mining of coal from coal mines facing closure to cooperative society;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of coal mines facing closure at present; and

(d) whether Government are contemplating on formulating a national policy for the employees displaced from the same in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

(c) A total of 6 coal mines of the Coal India Limited (CIL) are facing closure during 2006-07 due to exhaustion of the reserves.

(d) The employees engaged in the mines of CIL where reserves have exhausted are being re-deployed in nearby mines/new projects of CIL.

Coal reserves under BCCL

†1025. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is 4.6 billion tonnes of coal reserves under the jurisdiction of Bharat Coking Coal Limited where mining work is not going on at present;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.